

MEETING OF
THE DELAWARE AGRICULTURAL LANDS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

A meeting of the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation was held at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, 2320 S. DuPont Hwy. Dover, Delaware, July 11, 2007, with the following members in attendance:

Robert F. Garey, Chairman	Harry D. Shockley, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture (representing Michael T. Scuse, Secretary of Agriculture)
Lyn Davenport, Secretary	Jack Markell, State Treasurer
W. Allen Jones, Treasurer	Kevin Coyle (representative for the Hon. John Hughes.)
Allen Messick	
Theodore P. Bobola, Jr	

Absent: G. Ray Staats, and William Vanderwende.

The following staff members were in attendance: Michael McGrath, Scott Blaier, Howard Mesick, Milton Melendez, Danielle Klosowski, Cathy Mesick, and Robin West.

Others in attendance: F. Michael Parkowski and Mr. Jeb Weeks, State Treasurer's Office.

Chairman Garey opened the meeting at 8:35 a.m. with prayer.

I. Progress Report:

Milton Melendez informed the Board that we have a total of 938 farms in preservation districts totaling 145,243 acres, with a total of 488 farms under agricultural easements totaling 85,010 acres at a cost of \$134,280,634. For PDR 13 there are a total of 116 farms comprising 15,925 acres with a value of \$247,272,924 to be considered for purchase of development rights. For the Forestland Preservation program, there are 6 forest areas, totaling 279.3 acres.

Jack Markell asked about our amount we paid to landowners per acre as compared with the market. Michael Parkowski and Michael McGrath provided information on that matter. Funding for financial planning for landowners was also discussed, as well as providing a farm plan for landowners that could be conducted at a seminar.

II. Expansion Eligibility & Final Approval:

1. N & M Burton Farm Expansion of the N & M Burton Farm District, ID#S-07-01-245A. After discussion, **Allen Jones moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the N & M Burton Farm Expansion of the N & M Burton Farm District, seconded by Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

III. Public Comments – No public comments were received.

- IV. Minutes - Chairman Garey asked if there were additions or corrections to the June 13, 2007 minutes. Receiving no additions or corrections to the minutes, **Allen Messick moved the minutes be approved, seconded by Allen Jones Motion unanimously approved.**

V. Financial Highlights:

Cathy Mesick informed the Foundation Board that we had, as of June 30, 2007, \$9,055.99 in the Foundation's checking account. The Foundation's interest bearing State of Delaware account had a balance of \$72,419.76. We received \$8,159.58 revenue for the month of June made up of rollback taxes from all three Counties. Expenditures for the month of June totaled \$39,643.65. After discussion, **Lyn Davenport moved to accept the Financial Report as presented, seconded by Jack Markell. Motion unanimously approved.**

Jack Markell questioned the presentation of the net income in the Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual sheet. Discussion followed. It was decided that the bookkeeper should clarify this with additional information provided on a separate page of the financial statement. Michael McGrath discussed the upcoming audit, which will review all transactions, including all the inventory items of the Foundation, (all Foundation easements.)

Michael McGrath informed the Board that we shall need an increase in our administrative monies for FY'09 from \$500,000 to \$750,000.

VI. Executive Session – There was no need for an Executive Session.

VII. Other Business:

Michael Parkowski informed the Board about the questions he is receiving about compatibility between various conservation programs, such as Woodlands to Wetlands and our program, especially the easement portion of our program. Also, Mr. Parkowski wanted the board to know that we will be sending our RFPs for appraisal services and wanted the usual committee formed to review the RFPs. After discussion, the Board decided that the Appraisal Committee would be composed of: the Chairman, Robert Garey, Board Member, Theodore P. Bobola, Jr., and Staff Member, Michael McGrath, and Legal Counsel, Michael Parkowski. The time and date for the Committee meeting will be decided later and all Committee Members informed.

No other business before the Foundation Board.

VIII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Foundation, the meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m. The next meeting of the Foundation will be held on August 8, 2007 at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyn Davenport
Secretary